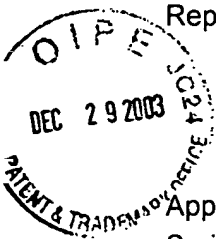


Appl. No. 10/016,952
Amtd. dated December 22, 2003
Reply to Office Action of September 29, 2003



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: William Newman et al.
Serial No.: 10/016,952
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Docket 17,640
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Date: December 22, 2003

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w/Drawings
& Attach.
M. WATTS
1/7/04

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Amendment – 1st

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 and in response to the Office Action mailed September 29, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are submitted for your consideration.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 10 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

An Appendix including formal drawing figures (sheets 1-8) and Figures 51-54 from U.S. Patent No. 6,537,631 are attached following page 12 of this paper.

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02 FC:1201 86.00 DA